

3/3/69

Dear Charlie,

May thanks for your letter of 27th and enclosed letter to Hal Verb, who is a fine guy, one of the best, not like altogether too many I met out there. I'll write him as soon as you can, but in case he missed it, the name Jim Dondson, in SF, should have been included. Hal should recall this, but like all of us, he can forget.

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Y
When you can take the time, I wish you'd give me as complete an account as you can of what was said at Fred's. One of the things that interests me much is Rose-Wilson. I was all alone on this beginning last February, more than a year ago, and everyone involved in trying to frustrate my checking up then has a hang-up on it now. Since and willing as Fred is, to cover those things he did he has converted it into a hatred of me. He is welcome. I cannot change him. He says nasty things and I ignore them. The people who communicate them to me do not think better of him for it. In any event, on Rose I want to know not just that Jaffe belatedly says he is Wilson, now, but what reason there is to believe it, now. His saying it is not enough. Is there proof? Did he give anything except his opinion?

The ETLA thing probably originated in the "Farewell America" ploy, on which all of those involved fought me, Jaffe coming to your home late at night, when I was there, to try and convince me. Burton ditto. Fred, silence, and when he was supposed to come over (you were sick and I had no transportation, he called up and said he couldn't. I am aghast that it was made available to be aired without a pre-condition someone who understands the Z film, like Ray, whose work on the Connally hit is exclusively his and brilliant.

I was in New Orleans. After I left you I discovered what I was able to prevent, with the greatest of difficulty, and thus prevented what would have been much worse than the very bad thing that did eventuate. The two big reasons I was not there is that I didn't have a cent and I really wasn't wanted. I did an enormous amount of work trying to help them in those last minute, and much of it was ignored. They were afraid. Had Nichols not been there, I doubt they have used my autopsy stuff from POST MORTEM with which Oser did such an excellent job of cross examining Finck. When - if - I am again out there I'll tell you the entire story. It is not a pleasant one.

Art may be right. I do not think so. Chiefly because a few of us have continued doing viable work and have moved what is known very far forward. The problem will be even greater in bringing it to light, however.

As a matter of legal fact. ETLA is wrong. They will get away with it for other reasons. I have long used still from the Z film, without a peep from LIFE. You know what I also say about LIFE, and to that they also are and have been silent...If I were to guess who arranged it, and with what he regards and intended as the highest motive, it would be Steve Burton.

Hold the faith, baby. All is not yet over. Few people seem to agree with me, but I think the net effect is that we have moved forward. If they did enormously less than they could have in N.O. they did do something. And the Washington end, when they didn't wreck it, was the most important thing yet. I've done a book on it.

Please excuse the typos. My best to a very sweet young lady, from whom I've had no recent samples of the improvement in her writing ability.

Sincerely,